

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00

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O R 271710Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5378

INFO DIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONGEN MILAN

AMCONGEN NAPLES

USCINCEUR VAINGEN GERMAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1364

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

TAGS: THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS: CHANCES IMPROVE FOR FORMATION OF
ONE-PARTY DC GOVERNMENT

1. FOLLOWING POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND
LACK OF FIRM OPPOSITION FROM THE REPUBLICANS, MORO IS
PRESSING AHEAD WITH HIS ATTEMPTS TO FORM ONE-PARTY (MONOCOLORE)
DC GOVERNMENT.

2. MORO REACHED SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY DEMARTINO BY
TELEPHONE IN NAPLES YESTERDAY AND WAS REPORTEDLY ASSURED BY
DE MARTINO THAT PSI WOULD GIVE "BENEVOLENT ATTENTION" IN
PARLIAMENT TO PROGRAM OFFERED BY A DC MONOCOLORE AIMED AT
AVOIDING EARLY ELECTIONS. DC SOURCES INTERPRET SOCIALIST
ATTITUDE AS SUFFICIENTLY OPEN TO ALLOW PSI ABSTENTION ON
PARLIAMENTARY CONFIDENCE VOTE IN EVENT DC PRODUCES LIMITED,
EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PROPOSALS REFLECTING SOME OF BASIC PSI
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CONCERNS.

3. DC PARTY DELEGATION LED BY ZACCAGNINI HAS PLEDGED "FULL SUPPORT" FOR MORO'S EFFORTS. HOWEVER, DELEGATION ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAS YET TO "CONCLUSIVELY EVALUATE" POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF MONOCOLORE GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL. DC SOURCES NOW REPORT THAT MORO HARD AT WORK ON EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PROPOSALS.

4. DC SENATE SOURCE PREDICTS THAT MORO WILL INFORM PRESIDENT LEONE OF HIS WILLINGNESS TO FORM AN ALL-DC GOVERNMENT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. IF HE DOES SO, SOURCE INDICATED THAT NEW GOVERNMENT COULD BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK.

5. DESPITE CONSENSUS AMONG EMBASSY SOURCES THAT MONOCOLORE GOVERNMENT HEADED BY MORO NOW SEEMS MORE LIKELY THAN NOT, THERE ARE MANY OBSTACLES STILL ON THE PATH. THE SOCIALISTS ARE DIVIDED ON MERITS OF SUPPORTING SUCH A GOVERNMENT, WITH THE NENNI AUTONOMISTS AND MANCINI FACTION DISPOSED AGAINST PSI SUPPORT TO ANY GOVERNMENT HEADED BY MORO AT THIS TIME. THE REPUBLICANS FEAR THAT MONOCOLORE GOVERNMENT WILL WATER DOWN MORO-LA MALFA ECONOMIC PLAN TO INSURE SOCIALIST BENEVOLENCE. AND FEW DC LEADERS ARE HAPPY AT PROSPECT OF ALL-DC GOVERNMENT EXPOSED TO SLINGS AND ARROWS FROM ALL SIDES AT TIME OF ECONOMIC CRISIS. ALL THESE FACTORS COULD CAUSE MORO TO FAIL, WITH THE RESULT THAT THE DC WOULD EITHER HAVE TO "CHANGE HORSES" IN FAVOR OF CANDIDATE LIKE ANDREOTTI (MORE FAVORED BY PSI AT THE MOMENT) OR ACCEPT CERTAINTY OF EARLY ELECTIONS.

6. IF MONOCOLORE IS FORMED, MOST OBSERVERS AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE AN INTERIM SOLUTION DESIGNED TO LAST THROUGH THE PSI AND DC CONGRESSES IN FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH. ONCE DC AND PSI CONCLAVES HAVE DECIDED RESPECTIVE PARTY POLICIES, AN ATTEMPT COULD BE MADE TO PUT TOGETHER A DC-PSI BASED COALITION. SHOULD THIS FAIL, THE THREAT OF EARLY ELECTIONS WOULD AGAIN ARISE.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY CONSIDERS DC MONOCOLORE AS SOLUTION TO PRESENT CRISIS MOST LIKELY TO LEAD TO A WEAK
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AND INEFFECTUAL GOVERNMENT, HAMSTRUNG BY THE SOCIALISTS AND CONDITIONED BY THE PCI. DC WILL PREDICTABLY FACE STRONG CRITICISM FOR A WORSENING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN ISOLATION. SHOULD MONOCOLORE DRAG OUT UNTIL IMPORTANT LOCAL ELECTIONS IN MAY OR JUNE, IN WHICH DC IS EXPECTED TO DO RATHER POORLY, IT WILL BE SITTING DUCK SHOULD SOCIALISTS DECIDE TO FORCE EARLY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN THE FALL. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME01364
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760031-0224
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760118/aaaaaozw.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS: CHANCES IMPROVE FOR FORMATION OF ONE-PARTY DC GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006